Attorney Docket No.



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application

EOMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

The specification of which				
a. is attached hereto		•		
b. was filed on February 5, 2	001 as application serial no. 09/7	62.367 and was ame	nded on	
				(if applicable)
amended on	(if any), which I have reviewed	and for which I sol	icit a United S	illed on June 7, 2000 and as
71. 1		and tot willeli I 30	ich a Officed S	states patent.
I hereby state that I have reviewed by any amendment referred to about	d and understand the contents of t	he above-identified	specification	inch at the control of the control o
by any amendment referred to abo	ove.	are above identified	specification,	including the claims, as amended
I acknowledge the duty to disclos Code of Federal Regulations, § 1. Increby claim foreign priority beringentor's certificate listed below fitting date before that of the applications have be such applications have been	nefits under Title 35, United State and have also identified below an cation on the basis of which prior	s Code, § 119/365 c		
<u>* </u>				:
= FOR	EIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CL	AIMING PRIORITY I	INDED 15 USC	2 110
COUNTRI	APPLICATION NUMBER		NDER 35 USC	
-		DATE OF FILING		DATE OF ISSUE
Japan	11 160710	(day, month, year)		(day, month, year)
Tugan Japan	11-160710	8 June 1999		
Japan	2000-016767	26 January 2000		
	2000-064923	9 March 2000		
ALL FORE	IGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILI	ED BEFORE THE PRI	ORITY APPLIC	ATIONICS
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING	ORTH ATTER	
	1	(day, month, year)		DATE OF ISSUE
		(day, month, year)		(day, month, year)
hereby claim the benefit under Tit isted below and, insofar as the subj pplication in the manner provided naterial information as defined in T pplication and the national or PCT	by the first paragraph of Title 35,	United States Code,	ioi disclosed li	n the prior United States
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) STATE		STATUS		
		,, year)	31A1US	(patented, pending, abandoned)
			<u> </u>	
nereby claim the benefit under Title	e 35, United States Code § 119(e)	of any United State	s provisional a	application(s) listed below:
U.S. PROVISIONAL APP	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)			
				(20), Month, Teal)
		L		

I hereby appoint the following attorned and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Pop No. 40 401		
Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 40,481	Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535
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Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 34,130	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
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Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
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Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L.	Reg. No. 43,164
Ģould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
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Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. P-46,754	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Harrison, Kevin C.	Reg. No.P-46,759	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Hertzberg, Brett A.	Reg. No. 42,660	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
圖lson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Weaver, Karrie G.	
<u>Ңе</u> lzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 43,245
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 20,890
Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196	Wickhem, J. Scot	Reg. No. 43,261
Karjeker, Shaukat	Reg. No. 34,049	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 41,376
Kastelic, Joseph M.	Reg. No. 37,160	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 27,054
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Wu, Tong	Reg. No. 41,980
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Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 39,536
	-		Reg. No. 45,255

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 I hereby declare that all statements may be erein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor 1	Family Name MYOJO	First Given Name Minoru	Second Given Name	
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Sign	ature of Inventor 20	March 15, 2001			
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Signa	ture of Inventor 20	march 15. 2001			
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Signature of Inventor 203: Takashi Ulda Date: March 21, 2001					

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information erial to patentability.



- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
 - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

 (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

 (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
- (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

Aprima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.